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siders such legislation, though admittedly logical and effective, too drastic in character. He favors the proposition to establish a federal commission similar to the Interstate Commerce Commission, yet at the same time views with alarm the resulting increased centralization in Washington of control over the trade of the country, and the possibility of further bureaucratic intermeddling with business. The conclusion is reached that theoretically this federal commission should have some power to regulate prices, but the practical difficulties in the way of exercising this power are held to be so great as to prove well-nigh insurmountable.

On the whole, the argument of the author has an uncertain sound. The nature of his utterances appears to have been determined in considerable measure by political considerations. Certainly there is little in this book of value to the student of the trust problem.

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WORCESTER, DEAN C. *The Philippines Past and Present*. 2 vols. Pp. 1024, 128 plates. Price, \$6.00. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1914.

In these two attractive volumes, the recent secretary of the interior of the Philippine Islands does not aim to give primarily a history and a description of the Philippines. They are written rather as a defense of the past American administration of the islands and as an argument against the granting of political independence to the Filipino. Much of the book is devoted particularly to a refutation of James H. Blount's book, *The American Occupation of the Philippines, 1908-1912*. Indeed, so much space is given to answering Blount's charges that this work might be regarded as a reply to that book.

About one-third of the work is devoted to the relations of the Americans and the insurgents under Aguinaldo. The author has here assembled a vast amount of documentary evidence, both insurgent and American, in an attempt to dispose once and for all of the charge that the Americans promised independence to the insurgent leaders for aid in the campaign against the Spaniards. The evidence shows rather that the insurgents offered no real coöperation with the American forces but were guilty of base treachery toward them, and that the insurgent government finally destroyed by the Americans was in no sense a republic but an oligarchy of the most oppressive kind.

The second third of the book deals with the method of government and the work accomplished under American control. Throughout these chapters that deal with a variety of subjects—justice, education, health, slavery, legislation and so on—the author constantly emphasizes his belief that the Filipinos are incapable of self-government. The results obtained under American rule, in spite of Filipino indifference and opposition, have been remarkable but “the Filipinos are where they are today only because they have been pushed into line, and if outside pressure were relaxed they would steadily and rapidly deteriorate.”

The last group of chapters is descriptive of the islands—their physical features, climate and resources. The economic possibilities of the Philippines are not, possibly could not easily be, overestimated. In a chapter

on the commercial possibilities, however, the author has fallen into a very common error when he regards Manila as inevitably the future distributing center of the Far East. To substantiate his point he gives in the text a Mercator's map—the most deceptive of all maps—which makes Manila appear as the commercial center of the Western Pacific. As a matter of fact, a glance at a globe will show that both Hong Kong and Yokohama are nearer Panama and San Francisco than is Manila and lie on the main, or great circle, route, while Manila is an out-of-the-way place.

As a statement of the Philippine problem by one who has been intimately associated with the islands since before the Spanish War, and has been a member of the responsible governing body since the islands came into American possession, this book deserves more than usual consideration. It bears the authority of first-hand, inside information from the man who knows the Filipino people probably better than any other American.

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